

No. 0098

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Madagascar and has the honor to refer to the agreement between the United States of America and the Republic of Madagascar regarding the consolidation, reduction, and re-scheduling of certain debts owed to, guaranteed by, or insured by the United States Government and its agency, done at Washington on December 16, 1997 ("the Agreement"), pursuant to the Agreed Minute on the Consolidation of the Debt of the Republic of Madagascar signed at Paris on March 26, 1997 ("the Minute").

The Embassy of the United States also has the honor to refer to the diplomatic note of the Government of Madagascar dated August 7, 2000 and, on behalf of the United States of America, avails itself of this opportunity to propose several amendments to the Agreement.

First, the Embassy proposes to amend paragraphs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Article II of the Agreement so as to renumber these paragraphs as 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, respectively.

Second, the Embassy proposes amendments that are consistent with two messages from the Chairman of the Paris Club, the first dated January 13, 2000, and the second dated August 18, 2000, advising of the decisions of Paris Club creditor countries to extend the consolidation of Malagasy debts treated in the Minute to include amounts falling due during the period December 1, 1999 through November 30, 2000. In that regard, the Embassy proposes to amend paragraph 3 of Article II of the Agreement (formerly Paragraph 4 of Article II) as follows: quote consolidation period unquote means (I) January 1, 1997 through February 28, 1998, inclusive; (II) if the conditions set forth in Article IV, paragraph I of the Agreement are satisfied, the period from January 1, 1997 through February 28, 1999, inclusive; (III) if the conditions set forth in Article IV, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Agreement are satisfied, the period from January 1, 1997 through November 30, 2000, inclusive.

Third, the Embassy proposes to amend paragraph 2(C) of Article III, Paragraphs 2 and 10 of Article IV by replacing references to the date November 30, 1999 with references to the date November 30, 2000.

In accordance with Article III, Paragraph 3 of the Agreement, the amounts consolidated, re-scheduled and due will be adjusted consistent with these amendments and notified to the Government of Madagascar.

If the foregoing is acceptable to the Government of the Republic of Madagascar, the Embassy proposes that this Note and the Ministry's Reply Note accepting the foregoing shall constitute an amendment to the Agreement, which shall enter into force on the date of the Ministry's Note in reply.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Madagascar its assurances of highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States of America



Antananarivo, February 14, 2003

LS No. 07-2003-0042-B

Republic of Madagascar

Ministry of Economy, Finance and Budget

Office of the Chief of General Staff

Bureau of the Treasury

Department of Public Debt

No. 230-MFE/SG/DGT/DDP/Rsm

Antananarivo, May 20, 2003

The Minister of Economy, Finance and Budget

To

Madam Ambassador of the United States of America

Antananarivo

RE: Amendment to the agreement on the consolidation of the debt of Madagascar

Excellency:

I have the honor of referring to your diplomatic note dated February 14, 2003 proposing an amendment to the bilateral agreement on the consolidation of the Malagasy debt under Paris Club VIII, subsequent to decisions by the Paris Club dated January 13, 2000, and August 18, 2000.

We have no further observation to make and we hereby indicate our agreement regarding the terms of your diplomatic note.

We look forward to receiving communication from the United States Government on the amounts concerned by this amendment, as stipulated in paragraph 6 of your note.

Permit me to avail myself of this opportunity to remind you that it is the wish of the Malagasy Government to conclude the bilateral agreement under Paris Club IX as soon as possible.

Accept, Excellency, with my thanks, the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signature]

Benjamin Andriamparany Radavidson
Minister of Economy, Finance and Budget

[Ministry stamp]